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ABSTRACT

It is believed that this compilation will meet an information need that currently exists about environmental organizations. There are numerous directories and listings of environmental groups which furnish names, addresses, and brief statements of objectives, but they are frequently quite meager in their presentation of the history and character of their included organizations, and are usually arranged without regard either to sources of funding (tax-supported or private) or range of constituency (local, regional, state, or national). All of the organizations listed are private, nation-wide, citizen action environmental groups. Wide latitude was allowed in the designation of particular groups as environmental groups. This guide has been prepared primarily for the public librarian, but it may be useful to other librarians and interested citizens. The public librarian receives frequent queries from patrons about environmental groups (both national and local) dealing with their history, programs and activities, existence of nearby chapters, membership requirements, and publications. For answers to these questions and for proper referral, this compilation will hopefully prove to be a valuable reference. This guide will also help the librarian who is providing a current awareness service to community organizations by assisting in channeling information to the proper groups by identifying their concerns and objectives. (Other Institute materials are available as LI 004 469, 004 470 and 004 472.) (Author/SJ)

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Guide

to

Private Citizen Action Environmental Groups

by

Beatrice Sichel

School of Librarianship
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan
1973

LI 004 471

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Preface

It is believed that this compilation will meet an information need that currently exists about environmental organizations. There are numerous directories and listings of environmental groups which furnish names, addresses, and brief statements of objectives, but they are frequently quite meager in their presentation of the history and character of their included organizations, and are usually arranged without regard either to sources of funding (tax-supported or private) or range of constituency (local, regional, state, or national).

What criteria were used in selecting the organizations listed in this guide? All of the organizations are private, nation-wide, citizen action environmental groups. "Private" is defined as deriving practically all financial support from private citizens as membership fees, donations, bequests, or from various fund-raising programs (sale of publications, film rentals, etc.). "Nation-wide" indicates that the organization's membership is open to any person in the United States, and that the organization is not purely a local, state or regional one in scope of membership. Many of the "nation-wide" groups included in this directory, however, do have local, state and regional chapters. Some of them are even international in scope. "Citizen-action" has been applied rather broadly. Many of the organizations afford their members opportunities to become actively involved in local or national issues, but other organizations seek support from membership fees just to employ professional staff members who work for them. Wide latitude was also allowed in the designation of particular groups as "environmental groups." Included are organizations whose sole objectives are the preservation of the environment and pollution abatement (e.g., Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth), organizations whose interests encompass environmental protection together with other goals (e.g., National Council of State Garden Clubs), and organizations whose interests touch on environmental concerns only tangentially (e.g., sportsmens' clubs such as Ducks Unlimited). Many of the organizations included in this booklet are large enough to wield some influence on national policies. Others are small in size but have considerable impact by reaching people who are policy makers. It is hoped that this guide will be useful in providing important information on selected environmental organizations.

This guide has been prepared primarily for the public librarian, but it may be useful to other librarians and interested citizens. The public librarian receives frequent queries from patrons about environmental groups (both national and local) dealing with their history, programs and activities, existence of nearby chapters, membership requirements, and publications. For answers to these questions and for proper referral, this compilation will hopefully prove to be a valuable reference. This guide will also help the librarian who is providing a current awareness service to community organizations by assisting in channeling information to the proper groups by identifying their concerns and objectives.

Beatrice Sichel

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AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

919 - 17th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

The American Forestry Association is the oldest national forest conservation organization in America. It was founded in 1875 and currently is supported by a membership roll of over 65,000 individuals. The organization is dedicated to the advancement of intelligent management and use of our forests, soil, water, wildlife, and all other natural resources necessary for the maintenance and improvement of our environments.

The Association publishes American Forests, a monthly magazine, for its members. This periodical, in addition to feature articles in the area of conservation and the environment, maintains two continuing sections: a monthly review of the status of Federal legislation concerning the environment; and, reviews of new books in the area of natural resources. Occasionally juvenile books in this area are listed. AFA also publishes authoritative and inexpensive books about trees and tree management.

One of its major programs for the public is "Trail Riders of the Wilderness" which was organized in 1933 and has been operating successfully ever since. This program offers a variety of guided camping trips through wilderness areas during the summer months. A youth-oriented summer program sponsored by AFA together with other agencies is the "Trees for Tomorrow" program. This is a three-week workshop for high school boys, and is one of the methods whereby AFA promotes and encourages interest in forestry as a profession.

A recent example of the type of educational projects sponsored by the American Forest Association to increase public appreciation of the value of natural resources is the "National Panorama of Conservation Action." The Association participated in this exhibit together with other conservation organizations. This exhibition, which has five day showings at major shopping malls around the country, consists of color photographs with accompanying text plus free dissemination of information packets to the public.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

c/o Dr. W. F. Clark, Eastern Montana College
Billings, Montana 59101

The Conservation Education Association is a national organization open to all persons interested in promoting and stimulating environmental education. The objectives of the Association, which was organized in 1953, are to promote the integration of conservation concepts into school curricula at all levels, to develop conservation education in teacher colleges, and to provide a common meeting place for the exchange of ideas and successful programs among the specialists in the field.

CEA sponsors annual conferences for its members. The conference programs include field trips, lectures, and opportunities for exchange of information. In addition to its Newsletter, the Association publishes bibliographies of conservation education materials, an index of environmental films, and a directory of degree programs in environmental education.

COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC PRIORITIES

456 Greenwich St.
New York, N.Y. 10013

The Council is a research organization that aims to investigate and report on the activities of American corporations in four areas of social concern: pollution control, minority employment policies, foreign investments, and production of war materials. Data is gathered by interviewing company officials and from published sources. Before publication, the results are checked for accuracy with experts in the field.

The Council on Economic Priorities was founded in 1969 by Alice Tepper, a young securities analyst who was working in an investment firm. She was approached by a client who wished to invest his funds in a portfolio of stocks in companies with no or minimal defense contracts. In the course of drawing up this portfolio, Ms. Tepper decided to expand her research to cover other social problems. She terminated her employment with the investment firm and, together with a few associates, formed the Council.

The Council publishes Economic Priorities Report, a monthly bulletin which summarizes data on corporate activities in various fields of social responsibility. Over 800 subscribers, both institutional and private, receive this report. In addition, the Council has issued two major research publications; one dealing with corporations engaged in the manufacture of anti-personnel weapons, and the other dealing with pollution control efforts of 24 major paper and pulp producers. Its financial resources are derived from subscriptions, sales of publications, and private donations.

Although the Council is not an action group, it furnishes factual information to activists that enables them to question the policies of corporations they believe to be violating the public interest. For example, the Council issued a report in 1971 which presented facts indicating that much corporate advertising on environmental themes could be considered irrelevant or even deceptive. A large percentage of environmental advertising comes from industries with serious pollution problems, e.g., electric utilities, steel, petroleum, paper, and chemical industries.

DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

2000 N. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Defenders of Wildlife is a national educational organization founded in 1925, dedicated to the preservation of all wildlife. By 1971 its membership grew to 28,000. Its objectives are to promote the protection and humane treatment of all mammals, birds, fish and other wildlife, and to eliminate painful methods of trapping, capturing, and killing wildlife.

The Defenders are actively engaged in pursuing their goals. They monitor the actions of Federal and State agencies as well as proposed legislation in Congress in regard to environmental effects particularly towards wildlife. Readers of their quarterly News are encouraged to be vocal in opposing various programs. Frequently the organization offers alternative solutions to problems being administered by government agencies. Defenders send witnesses to testify at Congressional hearings.

For many years this group's efforts have been directed against the Federal Predator Control Program. This program featured widespread poisoning of coyotes by dissemination of "Compound 1080" which causes a slow and painful death. Opposition to this program was based on several factors: poison kills all wildlife, not just target animals; killing a population of one species destroys the ecological balance of nature and leads to new pest problems; and finally, the predator program was primarily benefiting a small pressure group of sheep ranchers whose small losses from predators could have been covered in other ways. The Defenders filed a suit dealing with this situation against the Dept. of the Interior. In February 1972 President Nixon signed an executive order prohibiting the use of poison on Federal lands. Now Defenders of Wildlife will re-direct its thrust toward State agencies.

Roadside zoos, those small private exhibits catering to the tourist trade and which frequently mistreat or neglect their animals, are another area of concern. No licensing requirements exist to monitor this type of business. Endangered wildlife is also of concern, and Defenders of Wildlife is attempting to obtain protection for additional species. The group sponsors a junior education program in the schools, and its quarterly news magazine includes an extensive book review section on wildlife and the environment.

DUCKS UNLIMITED

P. O. Box 4960
Chicago, Illinois 60680

Ducks Unlimited is a sportsmen's organization that was founded in 1937 for the purpose of perpetuating North American waterfowl. Waterfowl populations in the U.S. had been steadily declining during the 1920's, and alarmed hunters and conservationists launched intensive studies to determine the causes. The studies showed that the major factor responsible for the declining flocks was the decrease of breeding grounds in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Ducks Unlimited was established as a membership organization to undertake the task of rehabilitating and preserving the primary nesting areas in Canada.

Since its founding, DU has contributed over 80% of its funds to preserve and restore waterfowl breeding grounds in Canada. Marshes and wetlands have been leased from cooperating Canadian sponsors, and dikes, dams, and levies have been built to stabilize the water level during both drought and floods. Today DU has almost two million acres of prime wetland habitat with a total shoreline of over 8,000 miles.

Although DU is primarily a sportsmen's organization, it frequently supports environmental groups on conservation issues related to waterfowl. DU supports the establishment of wildlife refuges in Alaska and is also prominent among organizations devoted to the discontinuance of applying persistent chemical pesticides.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION, INC.

Room 731, 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Environmental Action was founded in 1970 as a political action group to coordinate local citizen pressure groups into an effective national force. EA is a registered lobbying group in Washington and exerts direct influence on legislation. It also serves as an information center on environmental problems.

The work of this organization helped to defeat the U.S. supersonic transport plane and to pass the Clean Air Act. It is currently attempting to pressure Congress to divert money from the huge Highway Trust Fund into mass transit programs. In addition to lobbying in Congress, EA works at the grass roots level by mounting political campaigns against Congressmen with negative voting records on environmental issues. The organization is completely dependent on public contributions. Its bi-weekly publication Environmental Action, which provides information on ecological issues from legal, political, and social viewpoints, is available by subscription.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

162 Old Town Rd.
East Setauket, N.Y. 11733

This organization arose out of a Long Island controversy in 1967 over the use of DDT for mosquito control. Attorney Victor Yannacone, Jr., and seven environmental scientists formed the Environmental Defense Fund for the purpose of bringing suit against polluters. Since its formation EDF has appeared in many courts over the issue of pesticide use. EDF is dedicated to the use of the courts for environmental protection. The organization has a Scientists Advisory Committee of prominent scientists who testify as expert witnesses and a Legal Advisory Committee. It has established a network of attorneys and scientists around the country who can be called on for legal advice and courtroom work. EDF is financed mainly by $10 a year dues from 25,000 supporters. In 1969 Yannacone resigned as General Counsel due to differences of opinion between him and the Board of Trustees.

EDF is attempting to construct a body of legal precedent which will establish the existence of a Constitutional right to a clean environment. The group files its suits as class actions representing all of the people affected by a given environmental problem. Previously environmental suits had always been brought by special interest groups or individuals seeking damages because of personal losses due to a polluter. Although EDF has frequently lost its case in court, the publicity engendered by the trial sometimes has aroused favorable opinion which has resulted in an embarrassed polluter who then alleviates the situation. This occurred in Missoula, Montana, in May 1969. A group of townspeople asked EDF to sue a paper producer for severe air pollution. Although EDF lost this case, the resulting publicity shamed the company into installing anti-pollution devices.

In 1971 the group had 43 suits in the courts or under consideration. Its interests include banning the SST because of noise pollution, pesticide abuse, needless projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DES in cattle feed, phosphate detergents, and halting the Four Corners power project in the Southwest. It promotes environmental safeguards for the trans-Alaska pipeline, rapid mass transit systems including diversion of funds from the Highway Trust Fund, land use planning, wildlife protection, more rigorous safety studies of nuclear power plants by the Atomic Energy Commission, advanced sewage treatment, and many other public concerns.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

620 C St., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

David Brower, after resigning as executive director of the Sierra Club in 1969, formed a new national membership organization known as the Friends of the Earth. The organization was established to fight environmental pollution. It does not havetax-exempt status because it functions as a lobbying group, concentrating on legislative and political action. Two subsidiary organizations were also founded at that time: the John Muir Institute for Environmental Studies, a research and educational foundation; and, the League of Conservation Voters, a group that participates in local, state, and national political campaigns by endorsing candidates on the basis of their voting records on environmental issues.

Friends of the Earth has been actively involved in many environmental issues. It led the forces that aided in defeat of the SST, joined the conservation groups opposed to construction of a jetport near the Florida Everglades, helped defeat the Cross-Florida Barge Canal, and won an injunction to stop further construction of the Alaska oil pipeline until a study of its impact on the area's ecology could be conducted. The organization supports better water pollution laws and enforcement, banning of coal strip-mining, protection of whales, dophins, seals and other endangered ocean animals, and unlocking the $5 billion a year Highway Trust Fund for use for public mass transit.

The organization has a publication program to help educate the general public on the need for environmental action. It has issued paper-backs on specific threats to the environment and a series of art books which document in photographs the remaining wilderness areas in the world. Its official periodical is Muir and Friends.

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Room 806, 1800 N. Kent St.
Arlington, Va. 22209

The Izaak Walton League was founded in Chicago by a group of 54 sportsmen and conservationists in 1922 for the purpose of preserving America's natural resources. From this humble beginning the League has grown to a membership of 50,000, and has developed a complex structure of 600 local chapters, state divisions, and national offices.

This organization seeks to protect and restore America's soil, woods, waters, and wildlife; to increase opportunities for outdoor recreation, particularly hunting and fishing; and, to foster the wise use of all natural resources. It helped initiate the first effective State and Federal pollution programs. The Izaak Walton League has supported water quality legislation, the creation of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (1958), soil conservation and the Soil Bank plan, development of national and state parks for outdoor recreation, and many other conservation programs.

In recent years the League has become more actively involved in conservation causes. A Legal Action Fund was set up to provide financial support for legal counsel in environmental matters. In 1970 the League took legal action in 11 different cases of environmental damage or threatened damage, many of them against local polluters. Its most urgent case is the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The League wishes to designate this area as a "Wilderness Area" and to close it to mineral exploration and mining. The suit is pending in the U.S. District Court in Minneapolis.

The national office publishes Outdoor America, a monthly newspaper which keeps members and interested citizens informed on conservation issues and on the status of conservation legislation. The League publishes and distributes educational materials to schools and libraries, and sends experts to testify at public hearings on environmental issues.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

950 Third Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10022

The National Audubon Society is one of America's oldest and largest conservation organizations. Direct memberships in the Society involved about 190,000 citizens in 1971. Many of these members belong to one of the 230 local chapters across the United States. In addition, there are 275 other organizations which are affiliated with the Society. These are mostly groups that are not primarily concerned with conservation but wish to support it.

The name "Audubon Society" was originated in 1886 by the naturalist George Bird Grinnell in honor of John James Audubon, the famous ornithologist, painter, and naturalist. In 1895 Audubon Societies were organized in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Societies developed in other states, organized by persons seeking to save birds from extermination by plume hunters for the millinery trade. Because of the interest generated by the Society, bird protection laws were adopted by 32 states in the years 1895-1905. The Society has been successful in obtaining protection of most non-game birds. In 1905 the National Association of Audubon Societies was incorporated in New York City as a non-profit organization financed primarily by membership dues, contributions, and bequests.

Although the Society was formed for the protection of birds and other wildlife, the goals and purposes of the organization were gradually broadened. In 1969 the Board of Directors restated the Society's objectives as: 1. to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment; and 2. to educate man regarding his relationship with, and his place within, the natural environment as an ecological system.

The Society offers a variety of education services. It maintains four Audubon Camps which offer summer workshop for adults. There are four nature education demonstration centers where ecologically oriented programs are offered to school groups to increase their awareness of man's place in the environment. A variety of educational aids is available to teachers and youth leaders suitable for children and young adults. The Society is active in the publishing field. It issues Audubon, the official bi-monthly magazine containing articles, full-color photographs, and reports on vital conservation legislation; American Birds, a bi-monthly journal devoted to bird life; and Audubon Leader, a semi-monthly newsletter summarizing legislative matters of concern to conservationists.

The Society maintains 40 different Audubon Wildlife Sanctuaries for the protection of nesting, feeding, and resting areas for America's

birds. Its Nature Center Planning Division offers technical assistance to organizations interested in establishing nature centers. Sometimes together with universities or government agencies, the Society sponsors field research studies. Its research reports have revealed endangered bird species and alerted the government to the necessity of protection for species such as the whooping crane, bald eagle, and California condor. One of the most effective programs is the Audubon Wildlife Film Series, a schedule of color motion pictures on wildlife and conservation presented to the public in over 250 communities in North America. These films are known for their outstanding photography, and are presented by naturalist lecturers.

Although the Society is primarily devoted to conservation education, it will occasionally involve itself in environmental action. It launched "Ban DDT" campaigns, fought dredging practices that threatened wetlands, and formed a coalition with other conservation organizations to prevent construction of a jetport in the Florida Everglades.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE GARDEN CLUBS

4401 Magnolia Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63110

The National Council of State Garden Clubs was organized in 1929 to coordinate the interests and activities of the State Federation of Garden Clubs. The membership of 400,000 is distributed among 14,500 local garden clubs located in 49 States and the District of Columbia. Although membership is not limited to women, this organization is considered to be a "women's club." An additional 65,000 are associated as Junior Garden Club members.

The overall objectives of this organization are to aid in the protection and conservation of natural resources; to assist in establishing botanical gardens and horticultural centers; to advance the art of gardening, landscape design, and the study of horticulture; to encourage the improvement of roadsides, parks, and communities; and, to further conservation education. In recent years, a greater emphasis has been placed on the maintenance and improvement of our environment, and many programs have been planned with that aim in mind.

Although the national headquarters initiates and promotes many programs, the main thrust of this organization is on the local level. Local garden clubs carry on various activities which may vary from locality to locality; therefore, a particular club may focus on environmental issues while another one may concentrate on gardening and landscape design. Local clubs are encouraged to submit reports of their projects to the National Council which judges entries and awards prizes in the fields of gardening, flower growing, civic improvement, anti-litter campaigns, and roadside improvement.

National Council will cooperate with other organizations of similar interests. It assisted the Save-the-Redwoods League in a fund raising endeavor for purchase of Redwood Groves.

A bi-monthly periodical, The National Gardener, is published by the National Council. This magazine contains organizational news, reports of local activities, information about educational workshops, and reviews of books dealing with ecology, horticulture, gardening, and conservation.

Conservation education is a primary concern. In 1970 National Council adopted the "People and Their Environment" program. The Council believed the best way "to safeguard our environment and to improve the quality of life is to provide the children in schools with means to understand and appreciate the world they will inherit." To achieve this objective, the Council published a series of eight curriculum guides for teachers to aid in developing conservation education programs. These guides are geared to specific grades and age groups.

All local garden clubs are encouraged to distribute these curriculum guides in the schools. The National Council also sponsors an annual poster contest for schoolchildren. The posters must feature either Woodsy Owl or Smokey Bear and convey a conservation message.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

1146 - 16th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The National Geographic Society is the world's largest scientific and educational organization. It has nearly 8 million members in 185 countries. The Society was established in 1888 in Washington, D.C., for the purpose of promoting research and exploration in geography and allied sciences, and the diffusion of knowledge gained through scientific study.

The Society's work is supported by membership dues. Its publications include National Geographic, a monthly magazine containing articles on adventure, travel, and science all illustrated with outstanding color photographs; Geographic School Bulletin, a weekly publication for the 8-14 age group; maps, globes, and atlases; and, books providing in-depth coverage of various subjects. The Society also produces television programs.

The Society has sponsored over 700 expenditions including Peary's and Byrd's polar expenditions, the American Mount Everest expedition, and archeological excavations in East Africa.

Although not a conservation organization, the National Geographic Society frequently aids the cause of conservation by its choice of topics for research. It was instrumental in molding public opinion for the establishment of Redwood National Park by featuring two articles (1964 and 1966) on the redwood forests of California.

NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

1701 Eighteenth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

This organization was founded as the National Parks Association in 1919 by Stephen T. Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service, who envisioned the need for a citizen's organization to aid the government in protecting and expanding the National Park System. With the recent awareness of environmental problems, the organization expanded its interests to include comprehensive conservation problems and changed its name in 1970.

The primary concern of the Association is the maintenance of the National Parks, although it has been actively involved in several major controversies. It was in the forefront of the effort to prevent the construction of the jumbo jetport in the Florida Everglades, a project the NPCA believed would destroy the unique subtropical plants and animals. It vigorously supported the establishment of Redwood National Park. Proposals were forwarded to the National Park Service by the Association to alleviate traffic congestion in the national parks. The NPCA also opposed development of Mineral King, the ski resort planned by Disney, Inc., in the Sierra's; the construction of 16 dams in the Potomac River Basin by the Army Corps of Engineers; and, the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline without adequate environmental safeguards.

NPCA uses several approaches to gain its objectives. A staff of consultants is retained by the Association for planning and cooperating with government agencies on a variety of environmental protection ideas. The Association sends representatives as expert witnesses before Congressional committees in the hope that Congress will enact legislation favorable to the conservation cause. Education of the public is achieved by publication of their monthly National Parks and Conservation Magazine which keeps their 50,000 members informed on the major issues. The membership, armed with facts, can work more effectively as private citizens by supporting sound ecological policies throughout the nation.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

1412 Sixteenth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The National Wildlife Federation is the largest grass roots conservation organization in the United States. It combines 50 state affiliates, local groups, and individual members into an organization of 2,000,000 concerned citizens. The Federation was founded in 1936 to lead all groups interested in conservation, and today the organization is actively involved in environmental issues at national, state, and local levels.

While the welfare of wildlife is its major interest, the Federation is deeply concerned with conservation of all natural resources. It is dedicated to creating and encouraging an awareness among the people of the United States of the need for wise use and proper management of the earth's resources upon which the lives and welfare of men depend: soil, water, forests, minerals, plant life, and wildlife.

To attain its goal of creating conservation awareness, the Federation carries on extensive educational programs. Their publication activities include National Wildlife, a bi-monthly conservation magazine; International Wildlife, a bi-monthly magazine covering international conservation problems; Ranger Rick's Nature Magazine, a periodical for children; Conservation News, a semi-monthly newsletter devoted to national conservation issues; Conservation Report, a weekly digest of national conservation legislation; Conservation Directory, a comprehensive listing of conservation organizations; and, miscellaneous educational literature for school children and teachers.

The Federation sponsors "National Wildlife Week" and annually distributes millions of sheets of Wildlife Conservation stamps to focus public attention on resource conservation. For its members, the Federation conducts conferences and conventions, family vacation workshops called Conservation Summits, and Conservation Safaris which are tours to outstanding natural areas in several parts of the world.

The Federation established a Resources Defense Unit which, together with other conservation groups, frequently goes to court to delay or prevent developments that are detrimental to the environment. NWF has sought an injunction to delay power developments in the Four Corners area of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona until adequate study on their environmental effects are made. It is feared that smog from these power plants will threaten the Grand Canyon and five other national parks.

Although it is not a lobbying organization, the Federation will present testimony before committees of the Congress and state legislatures. The Federation has taken official positions on various environmental issues, and hopes to educate its members and the general public on the need for environmental improvement. NWF has gone on record opposing the development of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline without adequate environmental safeguards, supporting strip-mining controls, supporting a worldwide effort to stabilize population, banning persistent pesticides, favoring recycling of solid wastes, and strengthening the National Wilderness Preservation System.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

1800 N. Kent St.
Arlington, Va. 22209

The Nature Conservancy is an organization with a unique purpose and method of operation. It is dedicated to the preservation of natural lands still untouched by civilization. This goal is achieved by acquisition and maintenance of wilderness properties. To date, some quarter-million acres of forests, swamps, marshes, prairies, seashores, and islands have been saved from destruction.

The Nature Conservancy is an offshoot of the Ecological Society of America which was organized in 1916 at the University of Illinois. The organizer, Victor E. Shelford, proposed that the Society undertake a campaign to acquire unspoiled wilderness areas to preserve them for public use, but the majority of the Society's membership opposed the move. Eventually Shelford and a few associates formed the Nature Conservancy, and in 1953 its first purchases of wilderness land were made. Since then, the scope of its activities and sources of funds have increased. The organization derives its support from private philanthropists, foundations, and membership dues. The Conservancy has built up a $1.5 million revolving fund which is made available to local groups to enable them to purchase land. The local group assumes an obligation to repay the loan with money raised from the community.

The Ford Foundation became interested in the work of the Nature Conservancy in 1967 by extending $6 million of credit to assist them in buying lands designated by Congress for eventual purchase. Purchase was limited to assisting one of the following Federal agencies: Forest Service, National Park Service, or Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. This loan is important because frequently a time lag exists between Congressional approval for purchase and appropriation of the necessary funds for purchase. During this time period two situations can occur. Either the land in question may be sold to a developer or the price of the land may become excessively inflated due to the Government's interest in it. With the help of this $6 million, the Nature Conservancy can acquire the property at a realistic price and hold it for future re-sale to the Federal Government.

In addition to acquisition by purchase, the Nature Conservancy acquires land through gifts from both individual property owners and corporations. The Conservancy attempts to induce corporations to donate land by offering financial advice on tax advantages of property gifts. In 1969 they received the largest single gift ever made by an American firm for conservation purposes. Georgia-Pacific donated 390 acres of California redwood forest.

SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE

P. O. Box 2167
San Francisco, Calif.

The League was founded in 1918 by individuals interested "in preserving the world's greatest forests." These forests once encompassed 2,000,000 acres of virgin coast redwoods in the state of California, but today only 300,000 acres remain, the rest having been logged commercially. The coast redwoods are the tallest and oldest trees in the world. Many individual trees are between 1,000 and 2,000 years old, and they are over 300 feet in height.

The League achieved its objectives of rescuing the primeval redwood forests in several ways. Foremost in its work was the raising of funds. Since its founding the League has raised over $12 million for the purchase of redwood groves. The League encouraged the state of California to establish the Redwood State Park system on a cooperative matching funds plan. The League and the State each contributed 50% of the funds used to acquire the timber lands. In addition to the State Park System, the League and other conservation organizations worked for years to establish a Redwood National Park. This national park was finally created by Congress in 1968.

The creation of a national park does not mean the work of Save-the-Redwoods League is finished. The League is raising funds to purchase additional acreage for the purpose of establishing ecologically sound units. The entire watershed area must be in public hands in order to protect the forests. There is a need to acquire boundary lands to achieve this goal, and continued vigilance is required to preserve the beauty of these forests. The League is always on the alert for encroachments by other interest groups, e.g., the California Division of Highways or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, that might harm the redwood forests. It intends to voice its opposition to any projects, such as highways or dams, that would decrease the acreage of these unique forests.

SCIENTISTS' INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

30 East 68th Street
New York, N. Y. 10021

The Scientists' Institute for Public Information was founded in 1963 by prominent scientists who were concerned about the quality of the environment and who wanted to utilize their special expertise for the benefit of both their local communities and nation. Barry Commoner, a scientist, author of the widely read The Closing Circle, and an outspoken critic of present industrial practices, is chairman of this organization.

The prime purpose of SIPI is to foster dissemination of scientific data to the public. It believes that scientific information dealing with the environment is frequently withheld from the public. Lack of this knowledge prevents the public from making proper decisions. To alleviate this problem, the Institute conducts workshops on environmental topics, and sponsors the publication of Environment (formerly called Scientist and Citizen), a monthly periodical devoted to environmental issues. In addition, SIPI acts as a clearinghouse for local groups. Its staff is ready to assist scientists interested in forming local information committees for combating particular environmental problems.

The Institute is opposed to the development of the "breeder type" plutonium-fueled nuclear power plants because of their potential hazard to the environment. Its strong opposition led to a complaint filed in the federal courts against the Atomic Energy Commission in 1971 which charges the AEC with violating the National Environmental Protection Act by neglecting to issue an environmental impact statement about the effects of the proposed plutonium-fueled nuclear power plants.

THE SIERRA CLUB

1050 Mills Tower, 220 Bush St.
San Francisco, Calif. 94104

The Sierra Club was founded in California in the year 1892 by a group of mountain climbers led by the famous naturalist, John Muir. Their long-range goal was to preserve the Sierra Nevada Mountains from exploitation and destruction; but their immediate concern was the protection of Yosemite National Park from sheep allowed to graze in the park at no charge. Gradually the organization expanded its interests beyond the state of California to all natural resources of the United States, and today it is in the forefront of the many citizen organizations dedicated to protecting the environment from encroachment by economic development.

In 1952 the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club appointed their first professional Director, David Brower. During his term of office the membership grew from 7,000 to 77,000, and the Club began to fight vigorously for its beliefs by attempting to influence legislation on issues vital to their interests and by utilizing the Courts to prevent developments injurious to the environment. David Brower provided aggressive and dynamic leadership, but dissatisfaction with his policies gradually developed among the membership and the Board of Directors. The schism between Brower and the Board grew out of two basic problems. In the course of the Sierra Club's vigorous efforts to influence legislation, the Internal Revenue Service revoked their tax-exempt status by declaring the Club a lobbying organization. This loss of tax exempt status caused a substantial decline in contributions. The other bone of contention was the publication of the Exhibit Format Series, a series of large, expensive books of photographs of scenic areas which consumed a large percentage of the Club's budget. Brower consequently stepped down from the Directorship and formed his own environmental organization.

The Club's first active involvement in preservation of scenic areas was its opposition to the construction of a dam that would back water up into Dinosaur National Monument. The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation was proposing this project. The Sierra Club sent representatives to the Congressional committee considering this project and convinced the legislators to cancel the plan. This first success spurred the Club to maintain its fight for the remaining primitive areas of our continent. These continuing efforts met with varying success.

The Sierra Club worked to get through Congress a Wilderness Act which would set aside roadless, uninhabited tracts of 100,000 acres to be preserved in their primitive state. It was instrumental in the establishment of the Redwood and North Cascade National Parks.

Another successful program was their opposition to the Arizona Water Project, which called for building two dams on the Colorado River that would have backed up water into the lower reaches of the Grand Canyon. One of the Club's unsuccessful suits was its effort to prevent the construction of Mineral King Village, a ski resort proposed by Walt Disney, Inc., to be developed in California's Sequoia National Forest.

A recent effort is preservation of Alaska's unspoiled areas from lumbering interests. The Club has brought suit against the U.S. Forest Service to prevent the sale of timber from Tongass National Forest to U.S. Plywood-Champion. It wants the area to be designated as a wilderness area, especially Admiralty Island which is one of the few remaining nesting grounds of the bald eagle.

The Sierra Club believes that preservation of a livable environment should be considered as one of the top priorities of the U.S. government. In addition to its activities mentioned avobe, the Club promotes a variety of educational and public interest programs. It has an active publishing program, ranging from their large, profusely illustrated Exhibit Format Series through paperbacks and the monthly Bulletin. It produces and distributes many films, sponsors Wilderness Outings (about 80 trips of varying degrees of difficulty through wilderness areas during the summer months), and wages an active campaign to increase its membership, both in the national organization and in regional chapters to widen public support for its conservation views.

TROUT UNLIMITED

5850 E. Jewell Ave.
Denver, Colo. 80222

Trout Unlimited is a national conservation organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of the trout, salmon, and steelhead resources through better fisheries management, protection and improvement of natural habitat, and action programs on the local, state, and national levels. Founded in 1959, its membership is drawn from all fifty states and Canada, and numbers 14,000.

TU works on both local and national issues. Occasionally TU will assist larger conservation organizations such as the Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club. The types of projects that are of concern to this organization all deal both directly or indirectly with water quality and management. It supports numerous stream improvement projects, the designation of streams as "Wild Rivers," water pollution abatement procedures, and improved trout management programs. Occasionally TU files legal suits against government agencies and private corporations to halt activities they consider deleterious to water quality.

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

729 Fifteenth St., N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

The Wilderness Society was founded in 1935 by a handful of conservationists interested in the preservation of the primeval American wilderness. It is a citizen's society, with a current membership of over 50,000, dedicated to the preservation of Wilderness by conducting educational programs concerning the value of wilderness and how it may best be used in the public interest, by encouraging scientific studies concerning wilderness, and by mobilizing cooperation in resisting the invasion of wilderness. The Society believes that wilderness is a valuable natural resource that belongs to the people and that its preservation for educational, scientific, and recreational use is part of a balanced conservation program essential for the survival of our civilization.

The Society has various on-going programs that help to fulfill its goals. It publishes The Living Wilderness, a quarterly periodical of news and information on conservation issues and on pending legislation dealing with wilderness areas. The Society sponsors "A Way to the Wilderness," a series of over 60 expeditions into the wilderness by hiking or horseback during the summer months. These expeditions are limited to small groups and are open to the public. It is hoped that participation in these trips will enlist more support for the conservation movement. The Society will mobilize support for and cooperate with other organizations in the preservation of wilderness areas. Members are encouraged to work for local wilderness projects.

The Wilderness Society is particularly interested in Alaska as the last frontier, and it is fighting to maintain the remaining natural areas there. It joined with the Environmental Defense Fund and Friends of the Earth in seeking an injunction against the trans-Alaska pipeline project.

Illustrations of the Society's battles to preserve wilderness are the opposition to construction of the Storm King power plant and dam on the scenic headwaters of the Hudson River, the proposal to designate the C & O Canal Wilderness Area as a National Monument, opposition to construction of a trans-mountain highway across the Great Smoky Mountains, opposition to development of a jetport near Everglades National Park, the proposal to designate the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (Minnesota-Ontario border) as a wilderness area protected from mining and mineral exploration, and the establishment of Redwood National Park. Many other areas across the country are also safeguarded.

ZERO POPULATION GROWTH

343 Second St.
Los Angeles, Calif. 94022
also
901 East Capitol St., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Zero Population Growth was founded in 1970 as a national membership organization dedicated to the principle of population stabilization. Its efforts are concentrated on the United States, although population news from other countries is studied with interest. Current membership is approximately 20,000. ZPG Canada was recently established to coordinate the activities of all Canadian chapters.

ZPG hopes to attain its goal of population maintenance through education and political activity. The organization maintains a Washington, D.C., office, and urges its members to become actively involved in politics to gain support for its population policy. The main vehicle for keeping its membership informed is the publication ZPG National Reporter (10 issues a year). This periodical contains pertinent articles, organizational news, population news, political news, book reviews, and selected resources. ZPG cooperates with other population organizations, and publicizes its joint efforts and reports.

To disseminate the viewpoint of ZPG more effectively, an Executive Committee hopes to channel its activities into three major areas: media penetration, population distribution, and economics. Use of the media includes distribution of TV spots; production of brochures, posters, and bumper stickers; and, ads in magazines and college newspapers. The second program assists local chapters in dealing with problems of local growth, population impact, and planning because it is believed that a large segment of the public can best be reached through tangible local problems. Understanding of these realities can be expanded into an awareness of worldwide population problems. The third area of economics is an important one because economic arguments can be very persuasive. Information dealing with economic consequences of population stablization is conveyed to members through publications and reports.

CHRONOLOGY

Founded:	Organization:
1875	American Forestry Association
1886	National Audubon Society
1888	National Geographic Society
1892	The Sierra Club
1918	Save-the-Redwoods League
1919	National Parks and Conservation Association
1922	Izaak Walton League of America
1925	Defenders of Wildlife
1929	National Council of State Garden Clubs
1935	The Wilderness Society
1936	National Wildlife Federation
1937	Ducks Unlimited
1953	The Nature Conservancy
1953	Conservation Education Association
1959	Trout Unlimited
1963	Scientists' Institute for Public Information
1967	Environmental Defense Fund
1969	Council on Economic Priorities
1969	Friends of the Earth
1970	Environmental Action, Inc.
1970	Zero Population Growth